

REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 16, and 19-21 are all the claims presently being examined in the application. Claims 1-5 and 16 were elected and claims 6-15 and 17 are withdrawn as being directed to a nonelected embodiment. By this amendment, claims 1 and 16 are amended, claims 4, 5, and 18 are canceled, and new claims 19-21 are added. Independent claims 1 and 16 are amended to incorporate claim 4 and allowable claim 5. Further, new claim 21 recites somewhat similar allowable combination of features. Therefore, all of claims 1-20 are allowable for at least this reason. Claims 19-21 are added to assure Applicant the degree of protection to which his invention entitles him. The amendments introduce no new matter.

It is noted that the claim amendments, if any, are made only to assure grammatical and idiomatic English and improved form under United States practice, and are not made to distinguish the invention over the prior art or narrow the claims or for any statutory requirements of patentability. Further, Applicant specifically states that no amendment to any claim herein should be construed as a disclaimer of any interest in or right to an equivalent of any element or feature of the amended claim.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges that claim 5 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. As mentioned above, allowable claim 5 has been incorporated into claims 1 and 16, thereby to render moot the prior art rejections of claims 1-4 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Wan (US Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0028049) in view of Worden (US Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0149934).

Application No. 10/813,043
Attorney Docket: 03USFP932-K.N. (KUD.074)

CONCLUSION

Applicant notes that the Examiner returned one of the two IDS 1449 forms submitted with the original filing on March 31, 2004. Applicant requests that the Examiner initial all entries of both pages of this IDS submitted. For the Examiner's convenience, additional copies of both these 1449 forms are attached.

In view of the foregoing discussion, Applicant submits that claims 1-3, 16, and 19-21, all the claims presently being examined in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are allowable, and that the application is in condition for allowance. Such action would be appreciated.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary for allowance in a telephonic or personal interview.

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency in fees, including extension of time fees, or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully Submitted,

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